

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 06659 281842Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 034473

P R 281715Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8675

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6659

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, PINT, PO

SUBJ: GOP KEEPS ITS WORD IN AGRARIAN AND LABOR SECTORS

REF: (A) LISBON 6619 (DTG 271659Z SEP 76), (B) LISBON 6281

(DTG 141510Z SEP 76 NOTAL)

SUMMARY: KICKOFF OF THE PROGRAM TO CLEAR ILLEGALLY
OCCUPIED FARMS AND THE IMMINENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF TOUGH NEW LABOR
LAWS SHOW THAT SOARES IS DOING WHAT HE SAID HE WOULD IN BOTH
SECTORS. END SUMMARY

1. CORRECTING AGRARIAN REFORM ABUSES: SEPT 27, THE FIRST DAY
OF THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM TO CLEAR ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED
FARMS, PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT. THE BALANCE: THREE FARMS
RETURNED TO THEIR OWNERS IN THE DISTRICT OF EVORA AND
ANOTHER RETURNED IN SANTAREM; DISCUSSIONS PREPARATORY TO
ACTIONS UNDERWAY IN BEJA, PORTO ALEGRE, AND SETUBAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 06659 281842Z

THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED RURAL UNIONS CONTINUE THEIR

COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE. "O DIARIO" OF SEPT 28 LAID OUT THE CURRENT PCP LINE, STRESSING THE DETERMINATION OF RURAL WORKERS TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW TO CORRECT "THOSE FEW ERRORS COMMITTED" WHILE ENSURING THE EXPROPRIATION OF ALL PROPERTIES COVERED BY THE ORIGINAL AGRARIAN REFORM LEGISLATION. THE GOP CONTINUES ITS AGGRESSIVE MEDIA POLICY, ISSUING PERIODICAL STATUS REPORTS DESIGNED TO DEFLATE RUMORS.

2. GOP TO ISSUE LABOR LAWS: LABOR STATE SECRETARY ANTONIO MALDONADO TOLD LABATT SEPT 27 THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL ISSUE A NUMBER OF DECREE LAWS LATER THIS WEEK TO TOUGHEN CURRENT LABOR LEGISLATION. HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE BULK OF THE NEW LABOR LAWS WOULD BE EFFECTIVE BY OCT 4. THEY WILL INCLUDE DECREES LIMITING ILLEGAL STRIKES AND WORK STOPPAGES, EASING RULES ON TEMPORARY HIRING, BROADENING THE CONDITIONS PERMITTING DISCHARGE FOR JUST CAUSE, AND TIGHTENING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCEDURES.

3. COMMENT: IN ADDITION TO ITS VARIOUS CLEAN UP IN EDUCATION, THE GOVERNMENT IS MOVING AHEAD ON SCHEDULE IN BOTH THE AGRARIAN AND LABOR SECTORS. THE FIRST DAY'S ACTIVITIES IN THE ALENTEJO AND RIBATEJO WERE CAREFULLY PLANNED AND SKILLFULLY EXECUTED. THEY HAVE ESTABLISHED A PATTERN, AT LEAST FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF LAND CLEARING OPERATIONS. THE LESS CONTROVERSIAL CASES ARE BEING TACKLED FIRST. MOST OF THE LAND RETURNED IS IMMEDIATELY RENTED BACK EITHER TO THE AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE OR TO COOPERATIVES. THE HARD CASES -- THOSE INVOLVING OWNERS WHO ARE DETERMINED TO RETURN TO THE LAND -- ARE FOR THE MOST PART STILL TO COME. THE STANDOWN BY THE PCP HAS TAKEN MUCH OF THE EDGE OFF THE SITUATION. BUT FARMS OCCUPIED BY FAR LEFT UDP WORKERS STILL PRESENT A PROBLEM. IN SHARP CONTRADT TO THE COMMUNISTS, THE UDP HAS STATED ITS STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FOR CORRECTING AGRARIAN REFORM ABUSES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FORTHCOMING LABOR DECREES WILL OPEN ANOTHER FRONT, WITH COMMUNIST AND UDP UNIONS LEADING THE OPPOSITION CHORUS. BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS UNIFIED AND CONFIDENT; IT IS DOING WHAT SOARES SAID IT WOULD DO IN BOTH AREAS.
CARLUCCI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPERTY PROTECTION, LABOR LAW, LAND REFORMS, RECLAIMED LAND, SQUATTERS, LAND OWNERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON06659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED PER 77 LISBON 7514
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760365-1303
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760913/aaaaakqn.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 6619, 76 LISBON 6281
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOP KEEPS ITS WORD IN AGRARIAN AND LABOR SECTORS
TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, PINT, PO, (SOARES, MARIO)
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006